

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-122, Box 50088
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850



In Reply Refer To:
01EPIF00-2015-F-0025
01EPIF00-2016-F-0185

FEB 05 2016

Captain Joseph A. Campbell
Deputy Director, Joint Guam Program Office
Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (EI&E)
Joint Guam Program Office, ASN (EI&E)
201 12th Street South, Suite 700
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Subject: Second Reinitiation of Formal and Informal Consultations for Relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam

Dear Captain Campbell:

This letter acknowledges that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received sufficient information to reinitiate the subject formal consultation. The consultation concerns the potential effects of the relocation of U.S. Marines to Guam and the construction and operation of a live-fire training range complex on federally-listed species and designated critical habitat on Guam. The formal consultation will include the following additional newly listed species: *Bulbophyllum guamense*, *Cycas micronesica*, *Dendrobium guamense*, *Heritiera longipetiolata*, *Tabernaemontana rotensis*, *Tuberolabium guamense*, and Mariana eight-spot butterfly (*Hypolimnas octocula marianensis*). The informal consultation will include the following additional newly listed species: humped tree snail (*Partula gibba*), Guam tree snail (*Partula radiolata*), and fragile tree snail (*Samoana fragilis*).

We appreciate meeting with your staff on October 1 and 2, 2015, December 16, 2015, and January 21 and 28, 2016, to further clarify the project description and conservation measures. We also received your December 15, 2015, letter with locations of *T. guamense* and *D. guamense* and the February 1, 2016, email from Ms. Coralie Cobb which includes changes to the training operations in the Naval Munitions Site of Naval Base Guam.

Per our discussion on January 21, 2016, we understand that the survey report on the newly listed plants has not been finalized. We look forward to receiving the final report. Please be advised that the formal consultation may need to be reinitiated if new information reveals the action may affect listed species in a manner not considered in the Biological Opinion.

On January 27, 2016, you requested to review a draft Biological Opinion (BO) and expedite the completion of the formal consultation. On February 4, 2016, we received a letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy requesting confirmation of the completion of a draft BO in mid-March, followed by a Department of Navy (DON) review period of the draft BO, and completion of the final BO in mid-April.

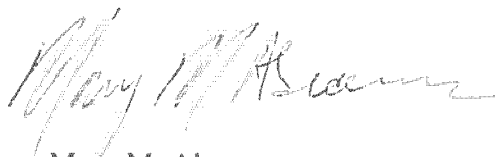
In response to the above requests, we agree to complete the final BO by April 15, 2016. We also will provide DON a draft BO on March 25, 2016. Comments on the draft BO should be submitted to us by April 6, 2016, to allow for sufficient time to review the comments and incorporate edits to the BO, as appropriate.

As a reminder, the Endangered Species Act requires that after initiation of formal consultation, the Federal action agency may not make any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources that limits future options. This practice insures agency actions do not preclude the formulation or implementation of reasonable and prudent alternatives that avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or destroying or modifying their critical habitats.

In addition, we have been working with Ms. Cobb to assess whether the presence of a new colony of Mariana fruit bats (*Pteropus mariannus mariannus*) within the action area warrants a revision to the effects analysis on bats in the July 31, 2015, BO on the subject project. We appreciate her assistance in this matter.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist you with the proposed project. If you have any questions or concerns about this consultation, please feel free to contact David Tessler at 808-792-9400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mary M. Abrams", written in a cursive style.

Mary M. Abrams
Field Supervisor

cc:

Celestino Aguon, Guam Department of Agriculture, DAWR
Acting Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Guam National Wildlife Refuge
Thomas Spriggs, 36 CES/CEV, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam